

Focus on Fifth

Weekly News for Holmes Fifth-Grade Families

News and Events in the 5th Grade

January 28, 2013

www.op97.org

Important Dates

Jan 28 - Feb 1	Conference Week
January 30	Math - Unit 8 test
January 31	BRAVO Field Trip
Feb 1 - Feb 22	MathCon
February 4	Colonial America Unit Test

Dear Families,

Conference Week

It is that time of year again! We are looking forward to meeting with all of you this week, and having the students share with you what they are learning. Please contact your child's homeroom teacher as soon as possible if you need to reschedule your conference.

It's Cold Outside!

Please remember that we go out for recess unless it is below 0. When the wind chill is below 20 we have a warming center, but everyone needs to go for at least 10 minutes. Please be sure to send your children with all of the hats, gloves, pants, and winter coats they will need to keep them dry and warm at recess.

SPECIAL AREA SUBJECTS

Art

Music - [Check out the website!](#) We will be having a playing test on the song "Ah Poor Bird" next week. The music will be posted on the website this week. If a student is nervous to play in front of the class, wants to retest or wants to finish their test early, they may make a video recording of themselves playing the song and email it to me at akaria@op97.org. I will also be available during lunch for those students who can't record themselves.

Spanish - We have been learning about the top 100 words used in conversation. We will be starting a new story this week. Spanish blog: <http://www.mpoleski.blogspot.com/>

Library - For more on library happenings, please keep up with us on the library home page (<http://www.op97.org/holmes/mediacenter/>).

Physical Education - Please see Mr. Williams' link (www.d97mrwilliams.blogspot.com) for information.

Reading/Literature

Last Friday, we had the honor of having Senator Harmon read the first portion of Johnny Tremain to us. We will continue reading this novel as a whole group, and focusing on the genre of historical

fiction. For this novel unit we will be focusing on comparing and contrasting texts within the same genre (historical fiction). Students will also be introduced to 2-3 greek and latin roots each week for the duration of the unit.

Language Arts

This week in language arts we will teach lessons on keyboarding/computer skills, as well as give students time to practice their typing in class. We will continue working on short project focusing on voice using the Preamble to the Constitution.

Math

Due to the half-days, this will be a short week for math. We will have our Unit 8 test on Wednesday and we will be reviewing in class on Monday and Tuesday. Students will create a review sheet in class. This unit test will cover addition of mixed numbers with like and unlike denominators, subtraction of mixed numbers with and without regrouping, multiplication of fractions and mixed numbers, finding percent of a number and converting between mixed numbers and improper fractions. Next week, we will begin a unit on measurement, focusing on area and volume.

Science

We will meet for science twice this week due to conferences. We will work to strengthen our science fair hypothesis and procedures. We also will work with a website called Science News for Kids. Students will read and respond to articles on various observations and experiments.

Social Studies

This week students will continue working on their in-class, group project about their given colony. Students should finish the project this week, and being a two-week research project (with the assistance of Ms. Maneck) on the causes of the American Revolution beginning the week of February 4th. We will have a **Colonial America test on Friday, February 4th**. Study guides will go home on Tuesday of this week.

Visit the **Holmes Digital Backpack** - <http://www.op97.org/holmes/digitalbackpack/>

We're on the Web!

Visit us at: <http://holmes5thgrade.wikispaces.com/>

Ms. Kraft
fkraft@op97.org

Ms. Manuel
mmanuel@op97.org

Ms. Peterson
apeterson@op97.org

Ms. Yigzaw
vyigzaw@op97.org